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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

SP - 7/74
24 January 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Director, INR, Department of State
Director, National Security Agency
Deputy Director for Intelligence, CIA
Deputy Director for Science and Technology, CIA

SUBJECT: National Intelligence Production on Foreign Strategic
Programs, February-July 1974

1. As you know, the Director of Central Intelligence has instructed the National Intelligence Officers to serve as his personal representatives on matters within their assigned areas of responsibility. This memorandum is to inform you of the activity and planning to date of the NIO for Strategic Programs, which has resulted in the attached program of inter-agency intelligence issuances for the coming six months. This initial program was developed after consultation with key consumers and intelligence officials, and after consideration of the DCI's Key Intelligence Questions. It has been reviewed and adjusted at meetings of intelligence research and production managers of CIA, DIA, State, and NSA, chaired by the NIO for Strategic Programs.

2. The attached program attempts to introduce new and more flexible methods into the production of national intelligence in a field which is characterized by multiple consumers with different needs, multiple intelligence research and production components with varying special capabilities, and a requirement for long lead-times to accomplish intelligence research and production. In accordance with the DCI's objectives, this program seeks to anticipate policy needs, to share the primary responsibility for preparing interagency studies among the major production components of the intelligence community, and to assure the collaboration of those agencies in a position to make significant substantive contributions. It is hoped that interagency studies, produced by streamlined methods but with adequate review and concurrence (or registration of differing views) by the principal collaborating agencies, can become a larger proportion of the community's intelligence output in the field of foreign strategic programs.

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3. In addition to the attached program, the NIO for Strategic Programs will need shortly to prepare initial evaluations of intelligence knowledge, gaps, and collection possibilities associated with two of the DCI's Key Intelligence Questions: (a) Soviet compliance with the SAL agreements, and (b) the intended size, role, and mission of the Backfire force. For the former, we expect to rely mainly on the SALT Monitoring Working Group, and for the latter, on the primary and principal collaborating agencies assigned to the Interagency Backfire study.

25X1A 4. My assistant, [] and I have taken the liberty of asking the representatives of primary and principal collaborating agencies to identify action officers who will assume responsibility for the several projects. (The DIA representatives have agreed to contact the appropriate service intelligence agencies.) We plan to discuss the scope of the projects with these teams, and to monitor their progress. We hope you will find this program and method acceptable. Without objection, we will proceed along the lines indicated during the next six months.

Howard Stoertz, Jr.
National Intelligence Officer
for Strategic Programs

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